

Imagine this: a coal mine in the Midwest, on top of which sits a refinery, a liquid fuel refinery. Sound far fetched? Well, this technology has been around for 50 years. The Germans used it in World War II.

The refinery bill that we have on the floor of the House today will provide the same incentives to expansion of petroleum refineries to coal-to-liquid applications.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. has 27 percent of the world coal supply, the largest of any country, but less than 2 percent of the world's oil and less than 3 percent of the world's natural gas. For a forceful response to the energy challenge, the U.S. must make much greater use of its unrivaled coal reserves.

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ENERGY POLICY

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as of this morning, Rhode Islanders are paying on average \$2.92 a gallon for gasoline. That is 40 cents more than they were paying a month ago and 70 cents more than a year ago.

Last year, Congress passed an energy bill which I opposed because it gave away billions of tax dollars to oil and gas companies, instead of investing in new technologies, alternative fuels and energy efficiency.

As it turns out, oil and gas prices have gone up since we passed the Republican energy bill. And you know what else has gone up? The profits of oil and gas companies. Now the Republican majority is proposing even more giveaways to the oil and gas industry by handing over Federal lands to open refineries and by opening up ANWR.

Mr. Speaker, enough is enough. We cannot simply drill our way out of this crisis. Growing demand from China and India and other countries is going to keep the cost of oil high for years to come, and subsidies to the oil and gas industry will not change that. We need new leadership that will promote an energy policy that encourages new technologies, energy efficiency and creates American jobs.

This morning on the "Today Show," the chairman of ExxonMobil said they were in the business of making money. Well, we are in the business of protecting the American people, and it is about time this Congress does its job.

THE FOUR-STEP DANCE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, in country line dancing there is a dance called the two-step. When it comes to energy policy, the Democrats have come up with their own dance, the four-step. Here is how it goes:

First, Democrats do not acknowledge the supply component in the supply and demand principle of economics. When confronted with solutions to the supply problem, Democrats always vote "no" and drive up prices.

Step two for Democrats is to scream about the evil of SUVs, even though they may be driven around in one.

Step three for Democrats is to call for investigations, point fingers, call for investment in R&D that already exists, and say that if it weren't for those darn Republicans, we could get off oil tomorrow.

Finally, step four for Democrats is repeating steps one, two and three until voters and the media stop paying attention.

Mr. Speaker, if this sounds familiar, it should. Since President Clinton vetoed ANWR in 1995, Democrats have performed this dance when it comes to increasing our energy supply. But with gas reaching \$3 a gallon, Democrats need to retire it and learn a new dance, but they should try to learn one that will actually increase our oil supply.

ADDRESSING ENERGY NEEDS

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, when President Bush took office 5 years ago, the average price at the gas pump was \$1.45. It has more than doubled over the past 5 years. And Republicans over the past 5 years have controlled the House, the Senate and the White House. Washington Republicans have done nothing to pass a sound energy policy that would wean us from foreign oil, create conservation programs, and provide incentives to develop alternative fuels, programs that would help us provide consumers some relief.

It took Republicans 4 years before they finally passed an energy bill, but that bill continued massive subsidies to the oil industry like the rip-off "royalty in kind" program. The President's own Energy Department admitted at the time that the energy bill would do absolutely nothing to lower gas prices. Five years of Republican power, and 5 years of no positive results for the consumer.

IMMIGRATION AND ENERGY PRICES

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is quite obvious that everyone is talking about the issues of the day: immigration and energy prices. And too many in this body are overcomplicating the issue. It is really not that hard. On immigration, secure the border, build a wall if necessary. Secure the border. It is what our constituents in Tennessee want. It is what the Republican major-

ity want. It is what the American people want and need.

On energy, we should be exploring for domestic sources of energy. We should pass the energy legislation that is going to come before this body this week. We should define price gouging, set some penalties, encourage construction of refineries. Currently, we are not doing that.

Liberals in Congress have spent the past three decades pandering to environmental extremists. The policies they have put in place are in large part responsible for the energy crunch we are seeing today. We have not built a refinery in this country for 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, the liberals need to start serving American families and stop serving special interests.

PHONY LOBBYING REFORM BILL

(Mr. BERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would ask that everyone remember our men and women in uniform and keep them in your hearts and minds and certainly in your prayers, especially those on the battlefield today.

Today, the Republican Congress is going to attempt to extend the culture of corruption and chaos. They are going to offer a so-called lobbying reform bill. It makes me think of that wonderful American, Merle Haggard, who wrote a song called "Rainbow Stew." It goes something like this: When a President goes through the White House door and does what he says he'll do, we'll all be drinking that free Bubble-Up and eating that rainbow stew.

This bill is clearly rainbow stew. It is a phony lobbying reform bill. America deserves better. America deserves integrity. America deserves honor. And they certainly don't deserve another dose of rainbow stew and free Bubble-Up.

ECONOMIC BOOM IN AMERICA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, America's economy continues to surge ahead, delivering tremendous benefits to families throughout our country.

Over the past 3 years, over 5.1 million Americans have found new jobs. I am glad that my visitors from Grace Christian School will enjoy expanded job opportunities, inspired by Jeanne Sleighter and Tim Stevens.

While House Democrats ignore this continued job creation, it is obvious that the 2003 tax cuts were the true source behind the tremendous economic growth in our country.

Last week, we witnessed another example of economic excellence in America. Last Friday, the Department of